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ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00
	OIGO-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-08	L-01	ADS-00
	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	FMP-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-10
	DRL-09	G-00	/042R				

DRAFTED BY: AF/RCS:SMCILVAINE:STM

APPROVED BY: AF:GMOOSE

IO/UNP:GSTANTON

AF/C:TMCULLEY AF/C:KAISTON

PRM:MMCKELVEY

NSC:FDOHSE

AF/C:ARENTER

P:EBRIMMER RT

S/S:LSGALLIVAN

S/S-O: DCSTEWART

-----CDDC39 082050Z /38

O 082048Z JUN 95

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139179

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MOPS, PREL, RW, CG, PREF

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON CROSS-BORDER ASSAULTS

REF: KIGALI 1757

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1. A VARIETY OF SOURCES (INCLUDING REFTTEL) HAVE MADE IT

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VERY CLEAR THAT THE RWANDAN LEADERSHIP IS CONSIDERING AN ASSAULT ACROSS THE ZAIRIAN BORDER AIMED AT THE EX-FAR AND OTHER HUTU FORCES BASED IN ZAIRE. WHILE WE CAN UNDERSTAND WHY THE AUTHORITIES IN KIGALI FEEL A NEED TO STRIKE BACK AT THEIR ENEMIES, SUCH AN ACTION COULD EASILY PRODUCE A HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL DISASTER AKIN TO THE TRAGEDY AT KIBEHO. IT MUST BE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR TO THEM THAT WE CANNOT SUPPORT, CONDONE OR IGNORE SUCH AN ATTACK.

2, DRAWING ON THE TALKING POINTS BELOW, POST IS REQUESTED TO CALL ON THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO URGE RESTRAINT.

3. TALKING POINTS:

-- YOU HAVE A LEGITIMATE CONCERN THAT MEMBERS OF THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT AND ITS ARMED FORCES ARE SHELTERING

AMONG THE REFUGEES IN ZAIRE WHILE THEY ORGANIZE FORCES TO ATTACK AND DE-STABILIZE RWANDA.

-- WE ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DEAL WITH THESE THREATS. WITH OUR SUPPORT, UNHCR IS PLANNING THE MOVE OF ALL THE CAMPS NEAR THE ZAIRIAN BORDER MUCH FURTHER INSIDE ZAIRE. UNHCR IS ALREADY BEGUN MOVING SOME OF THE CAMPS NEAR BUKAVU. ONCE THESE CAMPS ARE MOVED, THE EX-FAR WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO USE THEM AS A SHIELD.

-- WE ARE ALSO DISCUSSING WITH OTHER DONORS AND THE UN
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THE EXTENSION OF THE ARMS EMBARGO TO COVER ALL RWANDANS IN THE REGION AND THE STATIONING OF UN OBSERVERS AT GOMA AND OTHER AIRFIELDS IN ZAIRE THAT COULD RECEIVE ARMS SHIFMENTS.

-- THESE EFFORTS WILL HELP BUT THEY WILL TAKE TIME. IN THE MEANTIME, IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO STRIKE BACK AT FORCES SURROUNDED BY CIVILIANS AND REFUGEES ACROSS AN INTERNATIONAL BORDER.

-- SUCH AN ATTACK COULD EASILY LEAD TO EXTENSIVE CIVILIAN

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CASUALTIES, WOULD DRAW HARSH CRITICISM OF THOSE WHO
ORDERED IT, AND WOULD RESULT IN A NEGATIVE RESPONSE FROM
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.
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